



Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force

Success Story

DR. FUGATE RECEIVES AIR FORCE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARD



Dr. Robert Q. Fugate, of the AFRL Directed Energy Directorate's Beam Control Division, received the Presidential Rank Award in the Distinguished Senior Professional category. This honor places him in the top 1% of all senior civilian executives in the US Federal Government.



Air Force Research Laboratory
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Accomplishment

Dr. Fugate, the senior scientist for Atmospheric Compensation at the AFRL Starfire Optical Range, was presented the Distinguished Senior Professional award at a White House ceremony. President George W. Bush personally congratulated Dr. Fugate, who was one of only six recipients from within the entire Federal Government to receive the award. He was also the first Air Force (AF) senior professional award recipient. The winners exemplify strong leadership and professionalism and achieve results through strength, integrity, and commitment to excellence in public service.

Dr. Fugate heads a research program on atmospheric propagation physics, which includes atmospheric compensation using laser guidestar adaptive optics, as well as the acquisition, tracking, and pointing of lasers toward earth-orbiting satellites. His research program also includes the development of sensors, instrumentation, and mount control of large-aperture and ground-based telescopes. Under Dr. Fugate's leadership, AFRL's Starfire Optical Range developed and currently operates the most advanced, highest-performance adaptive optics systems in existence.

Background

Each year, the President of the United States recognizes and celebrates a small group of career senior executives' long-term accomplishments with these awards. The nominees are evaluated by a board of private citizens, and the final list is then approved by the President.

Dr. Fugate has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the AF Harold Brown Award, recognizing his significant achievements in research and development; the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award, recognizing his devotion to duty and significant scientific and technical contributions; and the AFRL Fellow Award, recognizing his accomplishments and technical excellence.

Additional Information

To receive more information about this or other activities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, contact TECH CONNECT, AFRL/XPTC, (800) 203-6451 and you will be directed to the appropriate laboratory expert. (04-DE-09)